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## **HETEROGENEOUS WRITINGS**

**By Duane V. Maxey**

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Digital Edition 07/03/05  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

This file consists of heterogeneous writings -- i.e., various writings the subjects of which are unrelated to one another. The one exception to their heterogeneity is, perhaps, that both item 02 and item 10 are eschatological writings, and thus part of the same general category. The other eight writings are quite unrelated subject-wise. I have compiled them together simply because they were all published via email in the recent past and saved for publication in the HDM Library. Nevertheless, it is my hope that each of the items in this collection will be a blessing to the reader. -- Duane V. Maxey, Phoenix, Arizona, July 3, 2005.

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01 -- ARTICULATE BUT ARTIFICIAL AND STUPID!

"For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but.. by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple" (Romans 16:18).

"There are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.. Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake" (Titus 1:10-11).

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ARTICULATE, BUT ARTIFICIAL AND STUPID! That was Absalom! -- and that description fits a multitude of glib but godless talkers today -- on the radio, and doubtless via all other means of audio broadcasting and recording. No doubt today's quick-witted SMART-MOUTHS! think of themselves quite exactly as that found in Psalm 12:4 -- "With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?"

The air-waves and audio-recording media are loaded with them! "There are MANY unruly and vain talkers and deceivers"! -- multiplied thousands of them -- in the U.S. and around the globe. And, they are found in political offices and political lobbying groups also: -- Egotistical, Loud-Mouthed Air-Heads, "Who have said, With our tongue we will prevail"!

And don't be so naive as to think you can phone a vile and vain talk-show host and convince him, or her, of the error of their position. They are determined that their tongue, and their tongue alone, "will prevail"! They will cut you off, and then, after you are off the air, they will ridicule you and your logic, no matter how correct you may be. I never call these Smart Mouths -- never! -- not even when I agree with their position on a thing.

There is "A time to keep silence, and a time to speak" (Ecclesiastes 3:7); and one time that it is wise to keep silence is when you are tempted to call one of these wise-acres in defense of the truth. Forget it! To try reason with one of them is to "cast your pearls before swine." They will cut you off, and then turn on you and rend you, while stomping the truth under their filthy feet into the pig-sty of their putrid pride! And, all of the "vain talkers" who are now "loud-mouthing" their filthy and false notions will treat you the same way -- whether it be one them on the radio, or in any other public forum.

So, if you are tempted to "Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his conceit," (Prov. 26:5), remember that the preceding verse, Proverbs 26:4 advises: "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him." "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom" (Prov. 13:10). I have heard a professed Christians trying to reason with one of these "Articulate but Artificial" smooth-talkers -- and, their conversations have sometimes turned into nothing more than proud and futile contentions.

Good advice to those tempted to contend with a "vain talker" is often that found in Proverbs 17:14 -- "The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, BEFORE it be meddled with."

While we were living in Spokane, Washington, I heard one glib-tongued, smart-mouth, radio talk-show host brag about how "My mouth landed me in radio." I venture to say that it may have also been his laziness! He could work his mouth with alacrity, but may have been quite loath to work his hands and his feet, or even his brain, at anything really constructive and productive. I suspect that it may well have been both his loud-mouth and his laziness that landed him in radio.

Proverbs 26:16 says: "The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason."

Don't think you will ever convince a lazy loud-mouth of his, or her, utter folly and falsehood! Seven wise-men could never "render a persuasive reason" to such that they would convince him to admit that his arguments are spurious and specious; therefore you, by yourself, will never succeed in doing so. Such pugnacious and proud smart-mouths have already made up their minds, and they have no desire to be confused with the facts!

Their conceited concept of themselves is found in the capitalized portion of Psalm 12:4 below: -- "Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; OUR LIPS ARE OUR OWN: WHO IS LORD OVER US?"

Let me put it in a country vernacular: "AIN'T NOBODY GONNA TELL THEM NOTHIN'! AIN'T NOBODY GONNA MAKE THEM ADMIT THEY ARE WRONG, OR CAUSE THEM TO SHUT UP!"

In their supposedly wise conceit, "their lips are their own" -- God didn't make them; God has no right to control them -- and indeed -- they either doubt or deny the very existence of God, saying: "WHO IS LORD OVER US?"

According to wise, old Solomon, trying to confront a fool in his folly is worse than meeting a bereft bear in the woods: "Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly" (Prov. 17:12). You have less chance of silencing an Articulate Air-Head than you have of killing a huge and raging mother-bear -- with no weapon. Angered by your contradiction of their statements, after rendering you defenseless with their cut-off button, loquacious loud-mouths will rip you open with the sharp claws of their clauses and "gnash on [you] with their teeth" ( Acts 7:54) -- even as their ilk did to the soon-to-be martyred Stephen. If you feel compelled of God to speak -- as did Stephen -- then, by all means do so -- even if you are verbally or literally slain, but -- probably most of the time it is best to remain silent -- even as Jesus was "dumb before His shearers" (Isaiah 53:7).

Articulate, but Artificial and Stupid "vain talkers" have no regard for the counsel found in Ecclesiastes 5:2 -- "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few." Nevertheless, you should follow that counsel, as should all who plan on going to heaven.

Why? Proverbs 13:3 answers that question: "He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction."

And, Jesus' warning in Matthew 12:37 answers that question: "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

Not everyone who is articulate is really intelligent! In fact, a smart-mouth is probably seldom found in the same head with a brilliant brain! And, a glib tongue that slices and dices others quicker than a chef can dice cabbage is always in the mouth of one whose words shall condemn him, or her.

It is not smart to be smart-mouthed! And, many who pride themselves in winning the argument, shall lose their souls! Proverbs 18:6-7 declares: "A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes. A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."

Further, Proverbs 12:19 says: "The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment." It is better to lose an argument -- "for a moment" -- than to lose one's soul "forever" -- but Articulate, but Artificial "vain talkers" are blind to that fact.

Being Articulate and being Artificial are often Siamese Twins -- and when these two characteristics are united in an individual, he or she is also stupid for being so. Nevertheless, it is generally not God's will for a Christian to try to "talk sense into them."

1 Peter 2:15 says: "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men."

Indeed, it IS "foolish men" who are the "loud-mouths" in the world -- "Articulate, but Artificial and Stupid" men. But, equally vehement and loud-mouthed argument is not what God wants from His Children in an effort to put them to silence.

Do you say, with Jeremiah? I am "weary with forbearing, and I [cannot] not stay" (Jer. 20:9).

Is your heart-cry expressed in Psalm 31:18? -- "Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous."

Speak out, only if you must, and remember that, according to 1 Peter 2:15 above, it is God's will that you bring that deep desire to pass with "well doing" which, sooner or later, will "put to silence the ignorance of foolish men."

Consider the counsel and truth in the following verses: "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." -- "The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth" (James 5:8; Psalm 107:42).

While refraining from argument with today's Articulate Air-Heads, you can still shout, HALLELUJAH! -- for the Day is coming when -- A-DOUBLE-L -- "ALL iniquity shall stop her mouth"!

Jude 14-15 says: "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

The saints shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air -- not ten thousand, but TEN THOUSANDS of them! -- and when the Lord descends from heaven with a shout, His saints shall also be shouting -- AND STUNNED WITH INCREDULOUS AWE -- "ALL INIQUITY SHALL STOP" SPOUTING AMIDST THIS SHOUTING!

"How long shall" Articulate, but Artificial and Stupid men "utter and speak hard things? and How long shall "all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?" (Psalm 94:4).

Only until Jesus Returns! -- AND RETURN HE SHALL!

Take warning! -- all who today assert: "Our lips are our own: who is lord over us?" (Psalm 12:4). Your mouths and your lips are NOT your own! "Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb? have not I the LORD?" declares Exodus 4:11. He Who created your mouth has power to make you dumb in His Presence, at His Return.

Nowadays, smart-mouthed, "vain talkers" are still -- as never before -- loudly and proudly broadcasting their filthy falsehoods -- as if nothing will ever shut them up. But, at the Judgment, stripped spiritually "naked" before "the eyes of Him with whom we have to do, (Heb. 4:13) -- and unable then to obtain the required Wedding Garment -- THEY SHALL ALL BE "SPEECHLESS"! (Matt. 22:12).

"BLESSED QUIETNESS! HOLY QUIETNESS!" -- and never again shall the noise of this world's nasty know-it-alls ever be heard by God's People.

But, while Heaven shall be a place of blessed and quiet tranquillity, it shall also be A PLACE OF LOUD HALLELUJAHS AND REJOICING. Saint of God, when your feet stand within the Holy City -- "In that day shall thy mouth be opened to him which is escaped, and thou shalt speak, and be no more dumb!" (Ezekiel 24:27). Your endless praises shall resound throughout eternity UNTO THE SAVIOR -- accompanying the loud Hallelujahs of "HIM THAT IS ESCAPED" with you, out of this present, evil world, into that Holy "World Without End"!

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02 -- EARTHLY ISRAEL -- HAS BEEN -- CAST OUT!

This fact is very clear from a proper understanding and interpretation of Galatians 4:22-31. I shall first present this passage below, followed by an explanation of its primary meaning:

(22) For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

(23) But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

(24) Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.

(25) For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

(26) But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

(27) For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

(28) Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

(29) But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

(30) Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

(31) So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

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#### EXPLANATION OF THE PRIMARY MEANING OF THIS PASSAGE

HAGAR TYPIFIES EARTHLY JERUSALEM: -- (Verse 25) -- "Agar... answereth to Jerusalem which now is.."

SARAH TYPIFIES THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM... (Verse 26) -- " Jerusalem which is above"

ISHMAEL TYPIFIES FLESH AND BLOOD ISRAEL: -- (Verse 23) -- "But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh."

ISAAC TYPIFIES SPIRITUAL ISRAEL: -- (Verse 28) -- "Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise."

THE CASTING OUT OF HAGAR TYPIFIES THE CASTING OUT OF EARTHLY JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL CITY OF GOD'S TRUE PEOPLE: -- (Verse 30) -- "Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman" -- Nothing could be plainer! --

Cast out Hagar = Cast out "the Jerusalem which now is" (Earthly Jerusalem) as God's Capital City!

THE CASTING OUT OF ISHMAEL TYPIFIES THE CASTING OUT OF FLESH AND BLOOD ISRAEL AS GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE!!! -- (Verse 30) -- "Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman (Earthly Jerusalem) AND HER SON (FLESH AND BLOOD ISRAEL): for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman" = (Flesh and Blood Israel shall "not be heir" -- SHALL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD! -- with "the son of the freewoman" = WITH SPIRITUAL ISRAEL!!!!

Nothing could be plainer than the true meaning of this passage! The Old Covenant, The Old, Earthly Jerusalem, and the Old, Flesh and Blood Israel HAVE BEEN CAST OUT -- REPLACED BY THE NEW COVENANT, THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM, AND SPIRITUAL ISRAEL!!!!

How anyone can read this passage and not see that is beyond me! -- unless they have some "ax to grind" in their prophetic interpretation -- or their minds have been blinded with teachings on this passage that distort the true meaning.

No, "God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew" (Romans 11:2) -- but, dear believer, the people whom God foreknew constitute SPIRITUAL ISRAEL! -- NOT FLESH AND BLOOD ISRAEL!

Do I hear someone declare: "SEE THERE! It says in Romans 11:2 that God has not cast away flesh and blood Israel!"

I reply: "Romans 11:2 says no such thing!" This is made clear by Romans 11:15, a few verses later: -- "For if THE CASTING AWAY OF THEM (THE CASTING AWAY OF FLESH AND BLOOD ISRAEL) be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?"

Beloved saint, FROM BEFORE THE WORLD WAS... GOD INTENDED THAT THE NEW COVENANT BE THAT WHICH WOULD BRING FORTH HIS PEOPLE, THAT SPIRITUAL ISRAEL WOULD BE THAT PEOPLE, AND THAT THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM WOULD BE HIS CAPITAL CITY! Repeatedly in the Scripture, and especially in Hebrews, the New Testament makes these facts clear!

"A Remnant" of Earthly Israel "shall be grafted in" on The Day of the Lord, "for God is able to graff them in again" (Romans 11:23).

It is true that God is not done dealing with Flesh and Blood Israel, even though they do not constitute the true Israel of God. But, never forget: "He is not a Jew, which is one outwardly.. But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly.. of the heart, in the spirit.." (Romans 2:28-29).

The Old Covenant, The Old Flesh and Blood People, The Old Earthly City -- all of these have been forever cast out! -- THEY CONSTITUTED ONLY FORESHADOWS OF, THE NEW COVENANT, THE SPIRITUAL ISRAEL, AND THE HEAVENLY CITY!

"In Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but A NEW CREATURE. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon THE ISRAEL OF GOD" (Gal. 6:15-16).

By the way, Child of God, WHERE ON EARTH DO YOU PLAN TO LIVE during a supposed, millennial reign on this planet??? If this earth is to be your first abode after the Rapture, why is it that you (along with millions of other saints, past and present) have always sung such as the following: "I AM GOING TO A CITY WHERE THE ROSES NEVER FADE"??!!

I'll tell you why the saints of God always look forward to, and sing about "GOING TO HEAVEN AFTER THEY DIE" -- IT'S BECAUSE THAT'S THE FIRST, AND ONLY, PLACE THEY ARE GOING TO RESIDE AFTER THEIR TRANSLATION!!!

In John 14:2-3, where Christ said to his disciples, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." -- HE WASN'T TALKING ABOUT "A PLACE FOR YOU" HERE ON THIS EARTH!!! -- NOT FOR A THOUSAND YEARS -- NOT FOR ONE YEAR -- NOT EVEN FOR ONE MINUTE! The "many mansions" of "my Father's house" to which Christ referred are obviously located in Heaven, not on earth!!!

When Jesus made the above promise, He was speaking of that which would fulfill 1 Chronicles 17:9 -- "Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more.."

Who are the "My People" spoken of in that prophetic verse?: The Spiritual "Israel of God"!

What is that "Place For My People" from which they "SHALL BE MOVED NO MORE" and in which "the children of wickedness" shall no more attack and "waste" them? -- Obviously, that place is: HEAVEN, AND THE HEAVENLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM! Christ isn't going to rapture the saints to meet Him in the air, and then place them back on this earth in the Earthly Jerusalem for a thousand years, at the end of which "the children of wickedness" shall again attack and attempt to "waste" them one more time! No sir! When Jesus said, "that where I am, there ye may be also" HE MEANT FIRST, AND ONLY, THAT PLACE IN THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM -- where the saints will be forever glorified, fortified, satisfied, and sheltered -- far removed from the devil, his imps, and his people -- "WORLD WITHOUT END"! (See both Isaiah 45:17 and Ephesians 3:21).

After the last Gentile is saved that ever shall be saved, when "the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" (Rom. 11:25), a Remnant of Flesh and Blood Israel SHALL BE SAVED -- Praise God! But, at Christ's Appearing, they -- along with all of the Ransomed Church of God -- shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air -- "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written" (Romans 11:26).

What a Day, Glorious Day, that will be! St. Paul wrote of it in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 -- "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

This, I believe, is the true scenario, the true interpretation of how things shall climax regarding the Remnant of Israel and the Church of God when Jesus Returns.

I challenge you to "search the Scriptures" -- as did the noble, teachable, Bereans -- to determine whether what I have said is so. (Acts 17:10-11). You may disagree with me if you wish... However, I shall not debate the matter with any. -- Duane

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### 03 -- IPSO FACTO, IPSE DIXIT, YPSILANTI, AND DIPSY-DOODLE Written Wednesday Morning, May 25, 2005

If my title above for this little piece of writing strikes you as a bit "wacko" and as an hodge-podge of totally unrelated things, please bear with me. I hope to demonstrate some "method in the madness" of that title, using each as a means of illustrating something important, and I will attempt to tie these unrelated items together in my conclusion.

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#### IPSO FACTO

"IpsO Facto" -- it is a term that I heard used yesterday -- one which I don't recall having heard form many years. If I ever had been clear about its meaning, I had long ago forgotten it. Dorothea and I were traveling along in heavy, Phoenix traffic when -- on our car radio -- I heard a local weatherman use the term in his forecast. "IpsO Facto" -- what did it mean? I said to myself, "If I remember to do so, when we get home I am going to find out what it means."

I did remember to search for its meaning -- and on my American Heritage computer dictionary, I found the following definition of "IPSO FACTO" along with an illustration of its use: - - "ipso facto adv. By the fact itself; by that very fact: An alien, ipso facto, has no right to a U.S. passport."

So, "ipso facto" means that "by the fact itself, or by the facts themselves, various things are proved, or disproved. And, I found it quite interesting that the illustration of its use involved the issue of Illegal Aliens.

By the very fact itself (ipso facto) that a person entered the U.S. illegally, he or she has no right to a U.S. passport -- no right to free medical care, no right to free Day Care for children, no right to Educational Subsidies, no right to Welfare, no right to vote, no right to inveigh against the enforcement of U.S. Immigration Laws, no right to demonstrate on the streets against the same, no right to work in the U.S., no right to commit crimes in this country (even heinous crimes) and then be turned loose, no right to free legal defense, and NO RIGHT TO EVEN BE HERE -- PERIOD!

Nevertheless, we have a U.S. President, U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senators, Federal Judges, many State, County, and Local Politicians of both parties, Greedy and Unscrupulous U.S. Employers, Illegal Sympathizers, and Illegals themselves intentionally overlooking those ipso factos!

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## IPSE DIXIT

This morning, the above term came to mind -- and it was another one, the meaning of which I had either never learned, or long ago forgotten. So, I looked it up, and found this to be its definition: "ipse dixit -- n. An unsupported assertion, usually by a person of standing; a dictum. [Latin ipse dixit, he himself said (it): ipse, he himself + dixit, third person sing. perfect tense of dicere, to say.]

Example of use: "Recent Supreme Court decisions emphasize the need to regulate the admissibility of expert testimony by means of standards that require opinions going beyond ipse dixit; that is, that are based on more than the fact that the expert "said it him/herself."

One humorous definition of "Expert" is broken down thus: "Ex" = an unknown quantity, and "Spurt" = a drip under pressure!

We have quite a few "Expert" judges on the bench today who render ipse dixit opinions about what is, and what isn't Constitutional. Often their opinions are nothing more than "unsupported assertions" -- totally underived from anything in our Constitution! But, a majority of U.S. citizens and voters who disagree with a judge's decision are forced to abide by it. The judge has decreed it, ipse dixit, and therefore it is a "dictum" by which we must all abide -- or be subject to prosecution.

In my opinion such "Ipse Dixit Judges" have an "unknown quantity" of intelligence, with an emphasis on the "unknown" -- and they are little "Drips under pressure" from a minority of left-wing, liberal wackos who want to dominate American politics -- or -- they are "Drips under pressure" from their own greatly inflated notions in their own noggins!

"I SAID IT, AND THEREFORE IT IS SO!" is the adamant attitude of "Ipse Dixit Judges"! No matter that there is nothing in the Constitution, or even in Sound Logic! -- "I said it, and therefore it IS so!" -- and all who disagree with me can either "Like it, or Lump it!"

The very fact (ipso facto) that judges who legislate from the bench often base their opinion upon nothing but their own, biased views shows them to be what they really are: "Ipse Dixit" dictators with "Itty Bitty" brains and tee-totally no regard for what the Constitution really says!

And, their cheering section is made up of many who echo their senseless sentiments: "HE SAID IT, AND THEREFORE IT IS SO!"

They insist that their "Ipse Dixit" Judges are right -- even when not one scrap of evidence has been, nor can be, presented to support their dictums!

But, if a Christian dares to declare: "God said it in is Word; therefore it is so!" the Ipse Dixit Judges and their followers will retort with: "ABSOLUTE NONSENSE! HOW CAN YOU INSIST THAT SOMETHING IS SO, IPSE DIXIT -- MERELY BECAUSE GOD SAID IT! AWAY WITH SUCH UNSUPPORTED DICTUMS!" -- and, they will, as they frequently have, do everything in their power to eradicate the Name of God and Word of God from all public places!

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## YPSILANTI

Not being from Michigan, I was not aware that "Ypsilanti" is not spelled "Ipsilanti" and spelling it in the latter way I found no mention of it in my American Heritage Computer Dictionary. I went online, and searched for "Ipsilanti" there, finding two Greeks mentioned having that last name: "Alexandru Ipsilanti, the son of.. prince Constantin Ipsilanti, was the leader of Greek secret society.."

After I discovered that the city in Michigan began with a "Y" instead of an "I" my online searches turned up some of the history of that place. And apparently "Ypsilanti" is merely a variation in the spelling of "Ipsilanti" -- for, Ypsilanti, Michigan is named after "Demetrius Ypsilanti, (1793 -- 1832), second son of Prince Constantine" -- "prince Constantin Ipsilanti" probably being the same person.

"Demetrius Ypsilanti distinguished himself as a Russian officer in the campaign of 1814, and in the spring of 1821... The city of Ypsilanti, Michigan in the United States of America is named after him."

"In the struggle of the Greek people against Turkish tyranny appeared an outstanding heroic figure, Demetrius Ypsilanti. With three hundred men he held the Citadel of Argos for three days against an army of thirty thousand. Having exhausted his provisions, he escaped one night beyond the enemy lines with his entire command, and having lost not a single man. He was admired by Americans for his part in a struggle for freedom so like their own."

So, we see that Demetrius Ypsilanti is noted for "having lost not a single man" in his escape from the Tyrannical Turks of his day.

Yesterday, after wrangling for some time over whether or not a minority of hyper-liberal, Democratic Senators should be allowed to filibuster Pres. Bush's judicial nominees, a group of seven so-called "moderate" Democratic Senators along with seven so-called "moderate" Republican Senators decided upon a compromise: one that would allow 3 of Bush's 10 nominees to get an up or down vote in the Senate, in effect, "losing seven of those nominees" as sacrificial lambs to the bickering and whining liberal minority.

The Republican, so-called "moderates" were headed by Arizona Senator John McCain, who is already running for President in the 2008 election. I don't know if McCain voted for Bush's "No Child Left Behind" Education Bill. I do think that McCain was probably very much in favor of a "No Prisoner of War Left Behind" policy when he was a prisoner of the North Vietnamese -- and I applaud his heroism in that war. However, Sen. McCain does seem willing to "lose some men and women" (who would make excellent, non-legislative, non-ipse dixit, Federal Judges) as sacrificial lambs to the power-mad, liberals now in the minority in Washington.

We need some unflinching and staunch Conservative leaders to be Demetrius Ypsilantis, who refuse to lose "a single man" or woman as pawns to placate the demands of such as Ted Kennedy, Harry Read, and their ilk. I sincerely hope that Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist really is a Demetrius Ypsilanti who refuses to concede to the whining liberal minority. Frist continues to "talk tough" and to declare that he stands by his demand for an up or down vote on all judicial nominees. Let's hope and pray that "Frist won't do the Twist" and concede to the sniveling, liberal minority in the Senate who want to dictate which judicial nominees do, and which don't, get an up or down vote.

Ypsilanti, Michigan was so named after Demetrius Ypsilanti because he "was admired by Americans for his part in a struggle for freedom so like their own." The struggle for democratic freedom in America is ongoing -- and it will certainly be lost, if those in power are willing to sacrifice non-ipse dixit judicial nominees to liberals who want ipse dixit judges legislating their agenda from the bench -- in Federal Judgeships and in the Supreme Court.

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## DIPSY-DOODLE

To "Dipsy-Doodle" is "To move in or follow a zig-zag course: "the narrow trail . . . dipsy-doodled through the brush until it finally reached the river."

Today, we have Illegal Aliens in this country who dipsy-doodled their way into the U.S., and we have Dipsy-Doodle employers of the same, who zig-zag their way through the streets, picking up their cheap laborers, and we have Dipsy-Doodle politicians who will use any ruse or false excuse to justify their refusal to enforce Immigration Laws. Ipso Facto, they are all guilty of betraying the legal, hard-working, tax-paying U.S. Citizens who must pay the bills and suffer the evil consequences of their Dipsy-Doodle Doings!

And today we have Ipse Dixit Judges who declare that Illegals in the U.S., Abortion, Homosexual behavior, and many other evils, are "Constitutional" -- "BECAUSE WE SAY SO!" Try to pin them down to a specific statement in the U.S. Constitution that supports their groundless assertions, and they will try to Dipsy-Doodle through a maze of sophistic reasonings and rationalizations which always conclude with nothing more than dead-end denial of the facts. Their Dipsy-Doodling may leave you confused, but never convinced -- if you are honest. For, they utter nothing more than ipse dixit dictums -- based on nothing more than unfounded assertions -- no matter how much they Dipsy-Doodle contrary to that fact!

Finally, I fear that we have today -- among both Democratic and Republican leaders -- a number of Dipsy-Doodling compromisers who, unlike Demetrius Ypsilanti, are quite willing to zig-zag though the facts in any way that will save their own hides politically -- no matter how many good men and women (more worthy of high position than themselves) are lost to the cause of Justice and Freedom in America!

A poem written in the early 1900s titled: "From Finnegan to Flanigan" contained some words which have been oft quoted since: "Off-again, On-again, Gone-again Finnegan."

Those words quite aptly describe the Dipsy-Doodlers in American politics today who equivocate, side-step, circumvent, hedge, dodge, and hem-haw on vital issues. When you expect them to Zig, they Zag, and when you expect them to Zag, they Zig. They are "Off-again, On-again, Gone-again Finnegans"! And, the only thing you can COUNT ON from them is that YOU CAN'T COUNT ON THEM to consistently, clearly, forthrightly, and courageously stand for what is right and against what is wrong in our nation.

With this, I conclude my little discourse on "Ipso Facto, Ipse Dixit, Ypsilanti, and Dipsy-Doodle." I hope you at least found it interesting and thought provoking, even if you did not agree with all of my statements.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 04 -- ZERO EXPOSURE EQUALS ZERO IMMUNITY

John 17:15 -- "I pray NOT THAT THOU SHOULDEST TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil."

Hebrews 5:14 -- "But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who BY REASON OF USE HAVE THEIR SENSES EXERCISED to discern both good and evil."

\* \* \*

#### SPIRITUAL INCUBATION AND ISOLATION LEAD TO RIDICULOUS EXTREMES

While in Matthew 6:13 Jesus did instruct his disciples to pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," at the same time His prayer for them in John 17:15 above

makes it clear that GOD'S METHOD FOR CREATING ROBUST, STRONG, AND HEALTHY CHRISTIANS DOES NOT INCLUDE TOTAL ISOLATION FROM THE WORLD!

Healthy, new-born babes in Christ must not be kept in spiritual incubators, and mature Christians with a strong spiritual resistance to evil cannot be developed by isolating them from all contact with society.

It appears to me that some hyper-legalistic Conservative Holiness Leaders today are themselves Spiritual Xenophobes who are recreating their isolationist phobias in those who follow them -- much like the way that the mother of eccentric billionaire Howard Hughes made him fearful of all contact with germs!

Germs were perhaps the most profound phobia of the mother of eccentric billionaire, Howard Hughes (1905-1976). She endeavored to isolate young Howard from all germs: -- "If he sniffled or coughed, he was rushed to a doctor" and "lavished with attention and sympathy," says one writer. "Allene Gano Hughes saw every playmate [of little Howard] as a disease carrier, and discouraged her only son from socializing."

As a result, Howard Hughes himself became a reclusive "GERMOPHOBE" whose fear of contracting a disease drove him to some of the most ridiculous and bizarre extremes imaginable. Another writer states:

"Always fearful of germs and disease, Hughes was developing an obsessive avoidance of human contact. He viewed anyone who came near as a potential germ carrier. Those whose movements he could control -- his aides, drivers, and message clerks -- were required to wash their hands and slip on thin white cotton gloves, the type used in film editing, before handing him documents or other objects. Aides who bought newspapers or magazines were instructed to buy three copies -- Hughes took the one in the middle. To escape dust, he ordered unused windows and doors of houses and cars sealed with masking tape. Those who worked near were instructed not to touch him, not to look at him, and not to speak to him directly."

Yet another source relates: "Hughes' fear of disease ultimately turned him into a recluse, who was rumored to exhibit extremely bizarre behavior that included wearing tissue boxes as shoes..."

"Each day Hughes painstakingly used Kleenex to wipe 'dust and germs' from his chair, ottoman, side table, and telephone. Sometimes he spent hours methodically cleaning the telephone, going over the earpiece, mouthpiece, base, and cord with Kleenex, repeating the cleaning procedure again and again, tossing the used tissues onto a pile behind his chair."

Ironically, while Hughes feared contracting disease from without, he "wallowed in his own filth in his DI penthouse, which never, during his entire tenancy, was cleaned. He stored his bodily waste in jars in the closet, never sterilized his hypodermic needles and rarely bathed, except when he 'purified' himself with rubbing alcohol."

IT IS ALSO IRONIC HOW PHARISAISTIC LEADERS OFTEN PLACE UNDUE AND INSANE RESTRICTIONS UPON OUTWARD BEHAVIOR, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BEING INWARDLY CORRUPT AND FILTHY. JESUS SAID IN MATTHEW 23:27-28:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."

Spiritually Germophobic denominations that go to illogical and ridiculous, Howard Hughes-Like, efforts to isolate themselves from all proximity to evil in the world will always end up wallowing in their own inward filth.

Why? Because their Xenophobic antipathy to evil develops into a hatred of those who will not obey all of their isolationist ideas about how to sterilize themselves from all contact with evil. Thus, in their reclusive demands, their hatred for sin metamorphoses into a hatred of their fellow Christians who do not buy into their nutty notions! And, their extreme and insanely restrictive demands about "touching not, tasting not, handling not" (Col. 2:21) sin from without actually create spiritual filth within their own reclusive organizations and spiritual corruption within their own hearts! Selah.

\* \* \*

#### A HEALTHY SPIRITUAL IMMUNITY DEMANDS NORMAL EXPOSURE TO EVIL

Christ wants His Church on the Offensive -- out there in the world, not a Church that is on the Defensive -- withdrawn within the cocoon of a Monastic Isolation from the world. The Biblical command is: "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom. 12:21). One old observation puts it: "The best Defense is a good Offense!" And, it is true that the victorious Church is the Church that is out there in the world and on the Offense, not the Church that is, with craven fear, withdrawn from society and meeting behind closed and reclusive doors.

In the physical realm, a healthy immune system demands normal exposure to the germs in this world. Total incubation and isolation of an infant or a child will result in an adult that has no resistance to disease in his, or her, immune system. **THE SAME THING WILL RESULT FROM OVER-ISOLATION FROM SOCIETY IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM: -- NO INWARD SPIRITUAL DEFENSES AGAINST EVIL WHEN ONE IS EVENTUALLY EXPOSED TO SUCH!**

No! one should not intentionally place an infant or child in a squalor! No! one should not intentionally expose a child to dangerous diseases! No! one must not fail to warn spiritual infants and children to stay out of immoral pig-sties. No! the child of God must not intentionally expose himself or others to immoral rot and spiritually fatal filth.

However, Health experts have come to learn that a certain amount of normal contact with others in the outside world actually helps children to develop immunities which can protect them then, and later as mature adults.

Likewise, rubbing shoulders with the world in normal, legitimate contact involving "the King's business" can help create spiritual immunities in spiritual children -- immunities that actually help them develop into healthy, robust, strong, and sin-resistant, mature adults in Christ.

Why so? Because "BY REASON OF USE.. THEIR [SPIRITUAL] SENSES [AND INNER DEFENSES ARE] EXERCISED to discern both good and evil," and they are thus able to "overcome evil with good"!

\* \* \*

### INOCULATION IS NOT AS GOOD AS DEVELOPING NATURAL IMMUNITY

It must be admitted that sometimes Inoculation with dead viruses is better than Immunity that is gained by Exposure to a disease. Likewise, sometimes Spiritual Inoculation is best -- in the form of strong doses of wise warning from those who have had first-hand knowledge about a certain evils. They faced it, they fought it, they finally killed it, as it were, and triumphed over it, and their dose of truth about the matter can help spiritual infants and children to build up a resistance of their own -- never having come in contact with the living, lethal spiritual germ itself.

However, some knowledgeable authorities are now stating that INOCULATION DOES NOT DEVELOP AS STRONG AN IMMUNITY TO A DISEASE AS ACTUAL EXPOSURE TO IT. Following are some excerpts from "Challenging The Theory Of Artificial Immunity" by Keith W. Wassung:

"The practice of vaccination against disease began in 1796 by Edward Jenner, who used the pus of blisters from cowpox to vaccinate people against smallpox...

"Despite the fact that vaccination is perhaps viewed as the strongest preventive measure against disease in modern health care, its practice and protocol has been challenged in recent years by a growing number of doctors and scientists, as well as a large number of parents. Recent immunology research and the availability of health information has caused the challenge of the foundational tenets of vaccination...

"One thing we have learned is that simply altering the natural physiology of the body may temporarily give the appearance of resolution of disease, but may actually create more problems in the long run.

"The human body is designed to be able to defend itself against foreign invaders, much like a castle or a fortress with outer and inner walls and then interior perimeter barriers. The majority of pathogens that enter the body do so via the mouth and nose. The upper respiratory area is packed with powerful defense mechanisms designed to combat and filter these foreign

invaders. Every possible portal of entry in the human body is lined with mucous membrane, a defense mechanism loaded with powerful secretory IgA.

"Natural Immunity is a complex phenomenon involving many organs and systems. It cannot be duplicated by the artificial stimulation of antibody production" 16 Dispelling Vaccine Myths

"There exist a finite number of immune system cells that are able to respond to foreign antigens. Once a specific immune cell responds to a particular antigen it becomes committed to that specific antigen and is unable to respond to any other pathogen. Vaccination results in a greater commitment of specific immune cells than would be utilized in natural exposure, which may actually weaken the repertoire of immune cells.

"There is a greater quantity of biological communication in the human body than all of the man made communication systems in the world combined. Signaling is essential to the development of immunity.

"The ability to remember and respond to invading organisms, even years later, is one of the fundamental features of the immune system. Traditionally, it was thought that memory cells were developed after initial exposures, but new research demonstrates that multiple exposures are required to develop T cell memory.

"The science of immunology is on a fast track due to recent advances in molecular biology and genetics research. Though there is still much to be learned, it is become evident that artificial immunity, stimulated by vaccination is not even close to duplicating immunity received from natural exposure and may actually work in an immune suppressive fashion."

According to this authority, INOCULATION MAY ACTUALLY WEAKEN THE BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM, WHILE NATURAL EXPOSURE TO A GERM PRODUCES A STRONGER AND LONGER-LASTING IMMUNITY TO THE BUG!

\* \* \*

## THE CONCLUSIONS

Spiritual Incubation and Isolation often lead to ridiculous, illogical extremes, much like the mind-set of Howard Hughes' mother, and Howard Hughes himself. And, that spiritual Germophobia leads its followers into an over-emphasis of outward evil which develops into a corrupt inner-circle, and inward spiritual filth.

A healthy spiritual immunity to evil demands a normal, reasonable, and legitimate exposure to evil out there in the world as servants obeying Christ's command: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel" (Mark 16:15).

Spiritual Inoculation of God's Children, administered by faithful warnings from those who have faced and overcome various evils has a legitimate place, and use. However, the

strongest and longest lasting immunities to evil come from facing and overcoming those evils one's self.

### SPIRITUAL BALANCE IS REQUIRED, BUT MISSING, IN THE CHURCH TODAY.

On the one hand, are those in the professed Church who, being mindless and heedless of all spiritual dangers, intentionally expose themselves to all manner of evil in the world -- thinking themselves eternally secure from, or inoculated to, the damning results of that exposure.

On the other hand, are those in the Conservative Holiness Movement, who being withdrawn from the world into Monastic, Incubation and Isolation, have become so fanatic about "touching not, tasting not, handling not" anything in this world, that their walk with God has taken on a pathetic similarity to Howard Hughes walking in tissue boxes, while at the same time their own inner circle and their inner beings have become filthy and corrupt -- to the point that they not only hate SIN, but also hate MEN who dare to disagree with their fanaticism. And, in their "zeal that is not according to knowledge" (Rom. 10:12), they even hail into court all those who try to withdraw from among their Jim Jones-type, Cool-Aid-drinking followers!

To all in today's professed Church who are thus so unbalanced, is not God's message still -- loud and strong: -- "O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?" (Ezekiel 18:29).

How great is the need today for wise spiritual leaders with equipoise! who know how to strike a balance in their lives and in their leadership of those following them. Selah.

\* \* \* \* \*

05 -- AS THEY SEE IT -- CHRIST IS ALWAYS WRONG! -- AND -- AMERICA IS ALWAYS WRONG!

Written on June 2, 2005

The BIG MOVE is on toward ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT, and two things now stand out BOLDLY in the attitudes of ungodly, anti-Christians today:

(1) CHRIST IS ALWAYS WRONG -- AS THEY SEE IT!

(2) AMERICA IS ALWAYS WRONG -- AS THEY SEE IT!

CHRIST IS ALWAYS WRONG! -- Sympathy is shown toward Muslims, no matter how murderous and tyrannical they may be; heathen religions are revered; the witch-doctor superstitions of native tribes (in the U.S. and elsewhere) are placed on pedestals; -- but -- (think anti-Christians today) -- Christ and His Gospel, along with the entire Word of God, are WRONG! WRONG! WRONG! -- Christians are disdained and despised as a sub-culture of numb-skulls, and sneeringly referred to as "The Religious Right" -- a majority perhaps, but a majority of mongrels whose mistaken morals are hindering scientific progress, women's rights, homosexual rights, and everything else that would make the world better. The Word of God

(both Old and New Testaments) must be forbidden any place on government property! The separation of the Church and State are taken to mean the separation of the Christian's God from the State! -- All other religions are to be revered and revived, but Christianity and the Bible must be reviled and revoked!

We are SEEING TODAY, AS NEVER BEFORE, THE FULFILLMENT OF THOSE SCRIPTURES WHICH PORTEND THE COMING OF ANTI-CHRIST -- such as: 1 John 4:3 -- "And this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

Before anti-Christ sets up his One World Dictatorship, Christ is being shoved out, shoved down, and shunned -- as never before! It is obvious that the rapidly increasing hostility toward Christ, toward Christians, and toward the entire Word of God, are setting the stage for the appearance of The Anti-Christ -- whom Revelation calls "THE BEAST" but whom a godless world shall consider "THE BEST" thing to ever come to this world. Instead of a great world-wide REVIVAL, we are seeing a great world-wide REVERSAL -- the great "falling away" -- the great apostasy predicted in the Word of God which precedes the coming of The Man of Sin.

AMERICA IS ALWAYS WRONG! -- Did you ever see the likes of it?! -- America, the great political liberator, the great bastion of Christian Missions -- is maligned, misrepresented, belittled and betrayed -- as never before! It is her attackers, her accusers, her enemies, and her betrayers who are always right -- as millions now see it. Sympathy is shown toward murderous tyrants like Saddam Hussein and the insane little fruitcake who is belligerently building nuclear bombs in North Korea. Pity is shown toward the terrorists imprisoned in Cuba, and those murdering scores weekly in Iraq. And many are even rooting for Osama Bin Laden, whose fiendish attack on the WTC and Pentagon on Black-Tuesday, September 11, 2001 snuffed out thousands of lives.

WHAT ARE WE SEEING?

ANSWER: -- The Satanic attack on CHRIST, and the same attack on AMERICA!

WHY?

BECAUSE BOTH MUST BE PUT-DOWN BEFORE ANTI-CHRIST CAN SET-UP IN HIS ONE WORLD DICTATORSHIP!

LOOK OUT, AMERICANS!! -- The move is on, as never before, to bring down this nation, and to bring about a One World Government. I predict that possibly within the next decade the European Union WILL SUCCEED in creating a European Government -- in spite of the just defeated votes toward that end in France and Holland. And, Pres. Bush's policies and those of his ilk among both Republicans and Democrats are moving this nation toward its dissolution and amalgamation into a One Hemispheric Government in the Americas. THE MOVE IS ON -- THE TREND TOWARD ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT IS VERY, VERY

APPARENT! Turn a blind and skeptical eye toward it, if you will -- it is happening, just the same!

LOOK OUT! LAODICEAN CHRISTIANS! -- don't think you are going to escape the coming blood-bath under anti-Christ, via a Magic Carpet Ride away from it all -- before it begins!!! Christ's prescription for the wealthy, ease-loving, shallow, professed Church of today is this: "I counsel thee to buy of me gold TRIED IN THE FIRE, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see" (Rev. 3:18).

Those who blithely sing, "When the Tribulation enters, I'll be gone!" -- and -- "When the Tribulation's over, I'll be back!" -- ARE IN FOR A GREAT SHOCK! -- for the Church, like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, will be saved THROUGH THE FIRE, NOT FROM IT! The "Glorious Church, without spot or wrinkle" will consist of those who have obtained their "white raiment" -- not only through Christ's blood -- but also through the midst of the coming and fiery, Great Tribulation.

I shall not debate these things with any -- but all who wish to read of my eschatological views in more detail can read my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom," hdm0124 -- found in the HDM Digital Library -- on CD-2300, or DVD-2449.

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## 06 -- ABOUT THE JOYFUL SOUND OF PSALM 89:15

Psalm 89:15 -- "Blessed is the people that know THE JOYFUL SOUND: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance."

\* \* \*

## INTRODUCTION

It should be obvious to any student of the Bible that the "Blessed People" mentioned in the above verse are "The People of God" -- those who were so under the Old Covenant, and those who are so under the New Covenant. However, just what this "joyful sound" is that God's People are said to "know" is not so easily discerned. WHAT IS "THE JOYFUL SOUND"?

The Hebrew word for "THE JOYFUL SOUND" in the above verse is "TER-OO-AW"\* and it both can be, and has been, interpreted in several different ways. Let us look at a few of them.

\* More precisely, TER-OO-AW' -- with an accent mark following the last syllable -- is the phonetic, English spelling of the word that I found.

\* \* \*

## A -- THE JOYFUL SOUND = THE ACCLAMATION OF JOY

According to my Strong's Greek-Hebrew Concordance, "THE JOYFUL SOUND" could have been translated "THE ACCLAMATION OF JOY" -- and one translation renders the verse thus: "Blessed are the people who learn to ACCLAIM you. They walk in the light of your presence.." (WEB).

My American Heritage Dictionary says that to "acclaim" is "To praise enthusiastically and often publicly; applaud. To shout approval." And, "acclamation" is defined as "A shout or salute of enthusiastic approval. 2. An oral vote, especially an enthusiastic vote of approval.."

Psalms 89:15, then, speaks of ACCLAIMING the Lord God publicly! -- with enthusiastic approval, applause, and praises. And, this O.T. verse has its best fulfillment when those who comprise the true, New Testament, Church of God loudly and publicly ACCLAIM JESUS! -- when they enthusiastically, salute Him without shame, shout His praises for the whole world to hear, and loudly approve of Him -- as those who say: "I VOTE FOR JESUS!" -- even when the majority in this wicked world disapprove of Him. The WEB version translates it "Blessed are the people who LEARN to acclaim you," but I dare say that its truer meaning is "Blessed are the people who [being far beyond the "learning" state] ALREADY KNOW HOW TO ACCLAIM JESUS, AND WHO ARE DOING IT DAILY"! Acclaiming Jesus is not something to "learn" out of a book, it is something that is placed into the heart of every truly born again Child of God, and something that will bubble up and burst forth, sometimes even when a blessed Christian least expects it! It comes from "The Spout where the Glory Come Out"! -- and it is an artesian well that automatically springs up and flows forth from the mouths of God's Children.

\* \* \*

## B -- THE JOYFUL SOUND = THE HOLY CRY

The Bible In Basic English translates the verse thus: "Happy are the people who have knowledge of THE HOLY CRY: the light of your face, O Lord, will be shining on their way."

Indeed the meaning of this verse does include that which is Holy. The "sound" spoken of in it, by implication, could not be an unholy sound -- it is not the "joyful sound" of loud-mouthed blasphemers; it is not the sound of those rejoicing in evil doing; it is not the sound of those guffawing at filthy jokes; it is not the sound of those celebrating a sports victory; it is not the sound of those at a Rock Concert; it is not the cry of those demonstrating in the streets for some political position or candidate; and, it is not the cry of those who are defeated -- in any way. It is THE HOLY CRY -- the shout of the Blood-bought, Blood-washed Church of Christ! as they march triumphantly and joyously toward the New Jerusalem.

\* \* \*

## C -- THE JOYFUL SOUND = THE FESTAL SHOUT

Another version translates Psalm 89:15 thus: -- "Blessed are the people who know THE FESTAL SHOUT, who walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance" (RSV).

"The Joyful Sound" was heard announcing the various "Feasts" or "Festivals" in Israel. Numbers 29:1 reads: -- "And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing [TER-OO-AW] the trumpets unto you."

"The Festal Shout" -- "The Sounding of Trumpets" was heard at that feast -- The Feast of Trumpets. Indeed, according to Strong's Concordance "Trumpets" is one way in which the Hebrew word "Ter-oo-aw" may be rendered.

The RSV translation of "Ter-oo-aw" here as "The Festal Shout" seems to me to carry only part of the meaning: -- the "Festive" or "Joyful" aspect of the Trumpet Sounding. But "Ter-oo-aw" is also used when the trumpeting is not festive or joyful, but is rather solemn, the sounding of an alarm, or the sounding of a charge in battle.

Nevertheless, "Blessed is the people that knoweth THE FESTAL SHOUT" -- the people who "shout the house down" in praise to their Redeemer. Such Festal Shouts have often flattened the barriers of Satan before the advancement of Christ's Church as effectively as the trumpets and shouts of ancient Israel flattened the walls of Jericho!

\* \* \*

#### D -- THE JOYFUL SOUND = THE SHOUT

Young's Literal Translation renders Psalm 89:15 thus: -- "O the happiness of the people knowing THE SHOUT, O Jehovah, in the light of Thy face they walk habitually."

I shall not comment at great length upon this point, but I will commence by saying that "SHOUT" is another way in which "TER-OO-AW" may be translated, according to Strong's. The saints of God don't always SHOUT, it is true. Neither do they always SHINE with a countenance that is so radiant that all can see it -- like that referred to in Harry Edward Jessop's book, "I Met A Man With A Shining Face." But, stick around the People of God long enough, and you will hear the former and see the latter.

Psalm 47:5 declares: -- "God is GONE UP WITH A SHOUT, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet."

And, 1Thessalaonias 4:16 says: -- "For the Lord himself SHALL DESCEND FROM HEAVEN WITH A SHOUT, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God.."

So then, if Jesus Himself WENT UP WITH A SHOUT and shall COME DOWN WITH A SHOUT, it shouldn't be out of place for His Saints to "GO UP AND DOWN WHILE SHOUTING"! Ever seen any of that? Ever done any of that? No, shouting won't get you do Heaven, but you had better plan on doing some when you get there, if you haven't already!

Revelation 7:9-10 says: -- "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

TALK ABOUT SHOUTING! -- THAT IS GOING TO BE SOME SHOUT! -- SO LOUD, AND SO MIGHTY THAT IT WILL TAKE THE GLORIFIED EARS OF THE SAINTS AND THE GLORIFIED WALLS OF NEW JERUSALEM TO ENDURE IT! No sir! Don't plan on going to Heaven if all you want is "Blessed Quietness"! There's gonna be so High-Volume, Holy Shouting going on up yonder!

"O the happiness of the people knowing THE SHOUT, O Jehovah, in the light of Thy face they walk habitually" (YLT).

\* \* \*

## IN CONCLUSION

The Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary says this about knowing "The Joyful Sound" in Psalm 89:15 -- "know the joyful sound" -- understand and appreciate the spiritual blessings symbolized by the feasts to which the people were called by the trumpet (Le 25:9, &c.).

Adam Clarke Translates and Comments Thus upon Psalm 89:15:

"O the blessednesses of that people that know the joyful sound;" that are spared to hear the sound of the trumpet on the morning of the jubilee, which proclaims deliverance to the captives, and the restoration of all their forfeited estates. "They shall walk vigorously in the light of thy countenance" -- (in) the full persuasion of the approbation of God their Father, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

The Hebrew word "The Joyful Sound," "TER-OO-AW" appears in 32 more verses in the Old Testament. If you have the computer version of Strong's Concordance, perhaps you can, as I did, do a search for Strong's Hebrew listing #08643, and locate all 33 verses where this word is used.

The precise definitions given by Strong for "TER-OO-AW" are as follows: -- "08643 from 7321; clamor, i.e. acclamation of joy or a battle-cry; especially clangor of trumpets, as an alarum:--alarm, blow(-ing) (of, the) (trumpets), joy, jubile, loud noise, rejoicing, shout(-ing), (high, joyful) sound(-ing)."

Even if you do not have access to a Strong's Hebrew-Greek Concordance, in print or computer version, with which to study this word more fully, hopefully, the reader of this article now knows at least a little bit more "ABOUT THE JOYFUL SOUND" of Psalm 89:15.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 07 -- THE CESSPOOL OF SENSUALITY NOW FLOODING THE WORLD

James 3:15 -- "This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish."

Jude 1:19 -- "These be.. sensual, having not the Spirit."

\* \* \*

### INTRODUCTION

I shall write of various aspects of sensuality using acrostic headings which spell out the word SENSUAL. I have long taken note of, and considered, the proliferation of sensuality in this nation and around the world since my youth -- and especially during the last decade.

In the Greek, the word "sensual" used in the above verses is "psuchikos" -- the same word that is translated "natural" in 1 Cor. 2:14 -- "The natural (psuchikos, sensual) man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God..." And, "psuchikos" is also translated "natural" in 1 Cor. 15:44, 46.

As never before, we are now being forced to behold the deeds of, and to hear the words of, "The NATURAL man" -- "The SENSUAL man"! Now let us consider this under the headings which spell out: S-E-N-S-U-A-L.

\* \* \*

### (S)-EXUAL PREOCCUPATION

There was something sexual involved in the Fall. In their innocence, animals do not know they are naked. And in their innocence, Adam and Eve did not know they were naked before their sin and Fall. But, directly after the Fall we find it written in Genesis 3:7 -- "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

It seems quite clear to me that The Fall degenerated Man from a primarily "Pneumatikos" (Spiritual) being into being primarily a "Psuchikos" (Sensual) being. Before their Fall, Adam and Eve were supremely conscious of God, and quite oblivious to things earthly and "psuchikos" -- "sensual". The focus of their attention was upon things "pneumatikos" -- things "spiritual" -- and their awareness of their bodies did not include any sense of nakedness or shame.

In their innocence, being conscious that they were sexually opposite had in it no sense of embarrassment, and their genitalia were in no way the focus of their attention. But, AFTER THE Fall, they were embarrassed that their reproductive parts were uncovered, and THE ENTIRE FOCUS OF THEIR CONSCIOUSNESS DEGENERATED FROM THAT WHICH WAS PRIMARILY AWARE OF SPIRITUAL THINGS INTO A WARPED AND PERVERTED AWARENESS OF THINGS FLESHLY AND SEXUAL. It seems almost sacrosanct to say it, but an awareness of their GOD was replaced by an awareness of their

GENITALIA! And, in Fallen Man, that warped and degenerate sexual awareness and preoccupation is, today, greater than ever before!

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8) -- as did Adam and Eve before the Fall. But cursed are the filthy in heart, for they see, they seek to see, and they immerse themselves in viewing things "sensual" and sexy -- more and more every day!

\* \* \*

#### (E)-XPLICIT SEXUAL SPEECH

About 10 years ago, when now Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas, was being grilled in U.S. Senate hearings prior to his appointment to that high court, one of the witnesses in the matter dared to mention, explicitly by name, the male genitalia. It was the first time I EVER remember having heard that explicit name mentioned in public! -- to say nothing of its being said publicly over a national broadcast heard by millions!

I have observed that ever since this man dared to mention the word, it has opened up a veritable floodgate of sexually explicit words being used over the radio. Today, there is virtually no taboo against mentioning any and every part of the human anatomy, male or female! These terms are used, not only with reckless abandon, but with delight -- by Talk Show Hosts, Entertainers and many others in the Public Media! To speak with such plainness not only fills the minds of listening adults with graphically sexual, mental pictures, but these mental images are also thrust into the minds of teenagers and even little children -- many of the latter which may ask: "Daddy" or "Mommy" -- "what does that word mean"?!

I have also noticed that since publicly naming the private parts of the male and female anatomy are no longer taboo, this promiscuous permissiveness in the media has also brought on numerous advertisements for products claiming to enhance sexual "performance" -- and often these ads are voiced by females in seductive tones with sexual nuance! Just recently, the news has stated that one of these products, Viagra, is said to cause blindness in some cases -- a just reward, I think! But, a far greater blindness is involved in these ads -- a densely darkened blindness to the damnation awaiting those who speak these ads, those who hear these ads with delight, and those who purchase the products advertised so as to pursue wanton sexual pleasure therefrom.

Yes, sexually explicit speech is a great part of the cesspool of sensuality now flooding the world.

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#### (N)-UDITY IN PUBLIC

Wife and I were shocked after we walked into a used book store near the California border one day about 6-8 months ago. I was hoping to find some good books to digitize for HDM. Instead, we encountered the male proprietor clad in nothing but a frontal, G-String! His

used book business was partly under tent-tops, and indeed it was very warm that day, but -- these factors did not justify the brazen exposure we encountered from this sexual Exhibitionist! Maybe 6 years or so earlier, we heard of a local businessman in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho who was also an Exhibitionist, who used mirrors in his bicycle shop to accomplish his vile exhibitions. In his case, he was arrested and sent to prison! If he is out now, I venture to say he could set up shop down there near the California border, do the same thing, and get by with it!

Back when I was a lad in high school, even worldly girls came to school in dresses that extended below the knees, and with modest blouses -- and the boys covered themselves with decent clothes for school also. Today, in school, in public places, and virtually everywhere, both males and females have become sexual Exhibitionists who dare to wear little, or nothing! And, this public nudity has even invaded Church Pews! No wonder Christ admonished the Laodicean Church about "the shame of thy nakedness" in Revelation 3:18!!

These days, a decent man or woman sometimes hates to see "Summer coming on" because of "What's coming off"! But sexual Exhibitionists these days often wear little or nothing in the Malls during the winter, and sometimes even out on the cold streets! Yes, Public Nudity is one more huge part of the Cesspool of Sensuality now flooding the world.

\* \* \*

#### (S)-EDUCERS WAXING WORSE AND WORSE

2 Timothy 3:13 prophesied, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." When has this prophecy been fulfilled more than today?! Men seduce wives away from their husbands; women seduce husbands away from their wives; rapists seduce and murder females of every age, including infants; perverts seduce those of the same sex, and pedophiles seduce little children of both sexes. Seducers have not only increased "more and more" with each passing year, but "seducers [have also] waxed worse and worse" -- with the crimes against their victims becoming increasingly more brutal and heinous! Just when your sensibilities have become a bit dulled by the frequency of some incredible cruelty perpetrated by today's heartless seducers, suddenly and even more bestial rape, murder, and mutilation occurs!

Yes, "worse and worse" definitely describes the trend among today's seducers -- who comprise one more putrid ingredient in the Cesspool of Sensuality now flooding the world!

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#### (U)-BIQUITOUS UNCLEANNESS

Uncleanness has become Ubiquitous -- there is now no place, even in the most honored and dignified offices, in which piety is revered as it should be.

Playboy Bill Clinton did not deserve to occupy our nation's "Whitehouse". His rotten and immoral behavior therein made "Red-Light House" a more appropriate name for what he made that revered abode!

I voted for G. W. Bush in hopes that he and his wife would dignify that house once again. And, I must say that, to a large extent, they HAVE done so -- at least in comparison with the words and conduct of its immediately previous occupants. But I was very disappointed recently to learn of how our First Lady, Laura Bush, (at a Dinner for the National Press Corps), lampooned her husband as sexually inadequate and portrayed herself as a "Desperate Housewife"! And, as if that were not sufficiently base to amuse her audience, the First Lady further lowered herself by relating a "farm" joke about her husband, (our President) that was "dirty enough to make the devil blush"!

Oh, the horrible Ubiquity of Iniquity today! -- often being the Ubiquity of Uncleaness in behavior and words that are unchaste and indecent! -- by those occupying the most dignified and revered offices in our land!

I even recently heard that one of our most conservative Supreme Court Justices related that he liked pornography! I was disappointed to hear it! for he is one of the Justices that generally sides with Conservative Christians on most things.

"Politics" DOES often make "Strange Bed-Fellows"! Scan across the radio dial today, and you will find that some of the most politically conservative Talk Show Hosts (Like Rush Limbaugh and his ilk) are filthy-mouthed! Relative to Limbaugh's speech, "Rank Limburger" fits him better than "Rush Limbaugh"! His speech is so coarse and rotten that it is unfitting for any Christian to listen much to him, if at all. And, even the highly-respected Shawn Hannity is also guilty of some moral Insanity! I once heard a female vocalist on his show who said she was "proud to be a Republican" -- but, unless I heard the lyrics wrong, when she cut loose with one of her songs it contained one of the most filthy and vulgar words in use today!

There was a day when nobody in public office, or over the air-waves, would dare to use off-color speech. But today another part of the Cesspool of Sensuality flooding the world is the Ubiquity of Iniquity -- both in immoral behavior and in public speech!

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#### (A)-BERRANT AND ABNORMAL SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

When I was a lad, the City Clerk in our town was guilty of aberrant, sexually deviant behavior. He was arrested, tried, and sent to prison. Today, if he is still alive, he may well be both "out of prison" and "out of the closet," -- and, many of his ilk are in High Political Office instead of in the Penitentiary, where they belong.

When I was young, homosexuals were called "Queers" because their behavior was considered to be aberrant, abnormal, deviant, and socially unacceptable! Today they "Sing it Loud, GAY IS PROUD!" -- and their aberrant, abnormal, and deviant behavior is pawned off as just another form of normalcy! NOTHING could be farther from the truth! Such behavior is NOT NORMAL! It is clearly ABNORMAL, ABERRANT, AND DEVIANT! Yet, we have many teaching that homosexual behavior HAS TO BE NORMAL BECAUSE MILLIONS ARE

ACTING THUS. My reply to that is: "Right is Right if nobody does it, and Wrong is Wrong if everybody does it. Even so, Abnormal is Abnormal, even if millions do behave this way! And, even if they outnumber the doctors and workers there, that is no reason to let "the inmates take over the asylum"!

Also, STRANGE, isn't it? that while other Gays admit that their tendencies and acts are "not straight," at the same time they claim that they "can't help it, they were born that way, -- and it is a congenital quirk beyond their control." If homosexuality is a sickness, WHY IS NOBODY LOOKING FOR THE CURE?! Instead, it is justified as normal and promoted as "the thing to do" if you were born that way!

Yes, aberrant and abnormal sexual behavior constitutes a strong current from the Cesspool of Sensuality that is pouring forth its filth and stench around the globe!

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#### (L)-ICENTIOUS LEGALIZATION

My American Heritage computer dictionary defines LICENTIOUS thus: - 1. Lacking moral discipline or ignoring legal restraint, especially in sexual conduct. 2. Having no regard for accepted rules or standards. [Latin licentious, from licentia, freedom, license. See LICENSE.].

Today, we are seeing the Legalization of that which is Licentious -- a giving License to immoral conduct -- a disregard for many previously "accepted rules or standards" of moral conduct -- and a widespread "ignoring of legal restraint" where those laws still do exist -- on paper!

Laws that are ignored and/or Laws that are not enforced, soon disappear! Having a Law on the books is no good unless it is enforced. Ignore it, refuse to enforce it, and before long it will be stricken from the books!

While I am on this thought -- Here is one of the dangers posed by ignoring our Immigration Laws also... When they are ignored, and when they are not enforced, they are disdained, and the massive hoards of Illegals flood across our borders with impunity! Then, once these interlopers have violated our border laws and are situated within our land, they will insist that they have the right to be here, and that the laws forbidding their entry should be struck down!

Likewise, the same thing occurs when God's Moral Laws are ignored and not enforced: -- Massive hoards of immoral God-haters disdain those Laws, violate their borders, then insist that it is their right to live free from those Laws, and that those Laws must be struck down!

Thus, every day, we are seeing more and more of God's Moral Laws being "struck down" around the globe! -- and, not only "struck down" as archaic and unfit for the world today, but also effaced and removed from public places!

And, in the place of God's Moral Laws, we are seeing the LEGALIZATION OF THAT WHICH IS LICENTIOUS!

In our time, people ask: "How could anything that feels so good be so wrong?" And it is counseled: "If it feels good, do it!" Over Phoenix radio, one town in Nevada has advertised: "How long has it been since you did anything you wanted to? Come to L\_\_\_\_, Nevada and do anything you want to!" -- the inference being, "Don't worry! Come to L\_\_\_\_, Nevada and you can indulge any and all of your sensual appetites without any fear of being arrested!"

But of course, when Licentious behavior is Legalized, then it also becomes necessary to Legalize the consequences of that behavior -- for example: via the Legalization of Abortion on Demand!

Licentious Legalization is another tidal-wave from the Cesspool of Sensuality now inundating this present, evil world.

\* \* \*

## THE CONCLUSION

Sadly, but truly, S-E-N-S-U-A-L, as spelled out above, does graphically describe the condition of this present, evil world -- populated predominantly by the "Psuchikos" -- "Natural" Man who "receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God." But, those who constitute the "Pneumatikos" -- the "Spiritual Man" abhor it all, while perceiving clearly that things "earthly" and "sensual" are also "devilish" -- and that those who now swim with pleasure in the devil's Cesspool of Sensuality will eternally scream in pain with him in the Lake of Fire, unless they repent and get out of the putrid pond while yet they may!

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08 -- SMALL -- A TOPICAL, ACROSTIC OUTLINE ON AMOS 7:2, 5

\* \* \*

## INTRODUCTION

Not feeling the best, after Dorothea was at work today, I lay down and took a nap. During my nap I dreamed that I was awaiting my turn at a convention to speak, and my text was going to be an acrostic, using the word, "SMALL" -- found in Amos 7:2, 5).

When I awoke, the subject of my dream was still on my mind, and I decided to create such an acrostic outline from the word and texts. Below is what I produced -- rather quickly, and my Introduction of the subject may not be what you want to use -- and quite possibly you will not want to use any of the material. Anyway, FWIW (F-or W-hat I-t's W-orth), here it is:

\* \* \*

## THE SCRIPTURES

"By whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small" (Amos 7:2).

"By whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small " (Amos 7:5).

I shall not use the context of the above verses as my subject, for they describe impending threats to Jacob of which God repented -- He did not allow them to come. I shall, instead, consider the questions of these verses in the context of the many evils which actually HAVE fallen upon the spiritual "Israel of God" today: -- "By whom" shall the "small" number in the true Church "arise" from the midst of these thing in revival and final triumph? And, I shall endeavor to answer that question with five replies, acrostically spelling out the word, "small".

\* \* \*

(S) -- By Whom? -- BY MY (S)-PIRIT

"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but BY MY SPIRIT, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).

\* \* \*

(M) -- By Whom? -- BY THE (M)-AN, CHRIST JESUS

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, THE MAN CHRIST JESUS" (1 Timothy 2:5).

\* \* \*

(A) -- By Whom? -- BY THE (A)-MIGHTY

"If thou wouldest seek unto God betimes, and make thy supplication to THE ALMIGHTY; If thou wert pure and upright; surely now he would awake for thee, and make the habitation of thy righteousness prosperous. THOUGH THY BEGINNING WAS SMALL, yet thy latter end should greatly increase" (Job 8:5-7).

\* \* \*

(L) -- By Whom? -- BY THE (L)-ION OF JUDAH

"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDA, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof" (Rev. 5:5).

"Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?" (Gen. 49:9).

"Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eat of the prey, and drink the blood of the slain" (Num. 23:24).

\* \* \*

(L) -- By Whom? -- BY THE (L)ORD

"But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the Lord their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen" (Hosea 1:7).

\* \* \*

## IN CONCLUSION

So, here is an acrostic outline. Take it from there, and put your own meat on the bones, if you wish, and if you can.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 09 -- GAINING A LOSS -- WINNERS WHO ARE LOSERS AND LOSERS WHO ARE WINNERS

"Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have GAINED THIS harm and LOSS." Acts 27:21

\* \* \*

## THERE ARE WINNERS WHO ARE LOSERS -- AND LOSERS WHO ARE WINNERS

"I think that the best part of this article is the anecdote about the father who named one of his children 'Winner' and the other 'Loser'.

"In 1958, a New York City father named Robert Lane decided to call his baby son Winner. The Lanes, who lived in a housing project in Harlem, already had several children, each with a fairly typical name. But this boy -- well, Robert Lane apparently had a special feeling about him. Winner Lane: How could he fail with a name like that?

"Three years later, the Lanes had another baby boy, their seventh and last child. For reasons that no one can quite pin down today, Robert decided to name this boy Loser. Robert wasn't unhappy about the new baby; he just seemed to get a kick out of the name's bookend effect. [A sister said she believes her parents selected 'Winner' because their late father was a big baseball fan and "Loser" just to complete the pairing. Newsday, 7-22-02] First a Winner,

now a Loser. But if Winner Lane could hardly be expected to fail, could Loser Lane possibly succeed?

"Loser Lane did in fact succeed. He went to prep school on a scholarship, graduated from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, and joined the New York Police Department, where he made detective [in the South Bronx] and, eventually, sergeant. Although he never hid his name, many people were uncomfortable using it. To his police colleagues today, he is known as Lou [instead of Loser].

"And what of his brother? The most noteworthy achievement of Winner Lane, now in his late 40s, is the sheer length of his criminal record: more than 30 arrests for burglary, domestic violence, trespassing, resisting arrest, and other mayhem. [Winner Lane is a small-time crook who has served a prison term and is living in a homeless shelter upstate. Winner will phone Loser when he needs money, but the brothers are no longer close. 'I'm a cop,' said Loser. 'And I have a way with me where I don't tolerate a lot.']. " -- From Two Different Online Sites

So, here we have a Winner who became a Loser, and a Loser who became a winner. Let me cite another case -- a tragic one -- where the Winner became the Loser and the Loser was the real winner. The following is from an illustration that I wrote years ago, and have long published in the HDM Digital Library:

At the close of some contests, the crowd waits anxiously, hopefully, for the decision to be announced as to who is the winner. Can you imagine how surprised and puzzled the crowd might be if the announcer proclaimed: "and the winner is... the loser!" Many might question after such an announcement, "What? How can the winner be the one who lost?!" Yet, paradoxically, and sometimes tragically, this is so. "In the early 1920s two boys of kindergarten age staged a race across a boulevard. One boy won the race by a stride -- just enough to place him in front of an onrushing car. The winner was killed instantly! The loser escaped unhurt." -- (from Saints Alive)

\* \* \*

## AND, THERE ARE LOSSES WHICH ARE GAINS

The the first part of the name of this Sunday Sermon is "Gaining a Loss" -- taken from an article of the same name which I also wrote many years ago, and which again has long been published in the HDM Digital Library. I present it below:

\* \* \*

## GAINING A LOSS

"Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss." Acts 27:21

\* \* \*

## GAINING A LOSS IS PARADOXICAL

Nine-year-old Henry struck upon the idea of hiring his little brother as his servant. "I'll give you ten cents a week," he said. Little Tom agreed. Henry then felt he'd offered too much money. "I can only pay you five cents a week, after all," he said. Little Tom agreed, just as cheerfully. Thinking he could get the child for even less, Henry said, "All I can pay is a penny a week." Hesitantly, his little brother agreed, but protested: "Don't raise it any lower." (from Humorous Stories)

Yes, as contradictory as it may seem, there are "raises" which actually "lower" one's profit and "gains" which bring us "loss". It is a paradox, but true, not only in the financial realm but also in the spiritual realm as well. More than one forlorn wage earner has discovered that the "raise" which his crafty employer gave him in reality "lowered" his pay when increased hours work was laid upon him or some fringe benefit was therewith taken away. Laborers in today's fields of employment whose just wages are thus "kept back by fraud" might well protest such practices in the words of the little boy: "Don't raise it any lower!" Likewise, in the spiritual realm, one should not only protest, but also shun, the gains which the crafty old devil offers which are actually great losses.

\* \* \*

## GAINING A LOSS IS OFTEN CONSEQUENTIAL

Frequently it is the consequence of sin, as when Adam and Eve gained the knowledge of evil resulting in the loss of good, God's smile and fellowship, and eternal life. Many times it is the consequence of placing a higher value on the material and temporal than one places on the spiritual and eternal:

"The Swedish Nightingale, Jenny Lind, made a great success as an operatic singer, and money poured into her purse. Yet she left the stage when singing her best and never went back to it. Once an English friend found her sitting on the steps of a bathing machine on the sea sands, with a Lutheran Bible on her knee, looking out into the glory of a sunset, and asked her: 'How is it that you ever came to abandon the stage at the very height of your success?' Jenny Lind's quiet answer was: 'When, every day, it made me think less and less of this (laying a finger on the Bible) and nothing at all of that (pointing to the sunset), what else could I do?'" (adapted, author unknown)

The sunset of life for us all is approaching faster than we may realize. How vital it is that we value the spiritual and eternal above the material and temporal. Sad indeed are the consequential losses that come from some earthly gains. Sometimes, as in the case of the incident recorded in Acts 27:21, the gaining of a loss is the result of human impatience and a determination to "sail on" in spite of a timely, Divine admonition spoken through a faithful messenger.

\* \* \*

## GAINING OF A LOSS CAN BE PROVIDENTIAL AND VERY BENEFICIAL

One morning a Christian farmer in Rhode Island put two bushels of rye in his wagon and started to the mill to get it ground. On his way to the mill he had to drive over a bridge that had no railings to the side of it. When he reached the middle of this bridge his horse, a quiet, gentle creature, began all at once to back. In spite of all the farmer could do, the horse kept backing till the hinder wheels of the wagon went over the side of the bridge, and the bag of grain was dumped out and fell into the stream. Then the horse stood still.

Some men came to help the farmer. The wagon was lifted back up to a safe position on the bridge, and the bag of grain was fished up from the water. Of course, the grain could not be taken to the mill in that state. So, the farmer had to take it home and to dry it. He had prayed that morning that God would protect and help him through the day, and he wondered why this accident had happened.

He found out, however, before long. Upon spreading out the grain to dry, he noticed a great many small pieces of glass mixed up with it. If this had been ground up with the grain into the flour, it might have caused the death of himself and his family. Jehovah-Jireh was on that bridge. He made the horse back and throw the grain into the water in order to save the farmer and his family from the danger that threatened them. (adapted from Dictionary of Illus.) Romans 8:28 --Selah

\* \* \*

Yes, there ARE many paradoxes in Life -- two being that supposed Winners are actually Losers, and supposed Losers are actually Winners -- two more being that supposed Gains can sometimes be Losses, and supposed Losses can sometimes be Gains.

According to St. Paul, in 1 Timothy 6:5 "men of corrupt minds" were "supposing that gain is godliness" -- when in fact greedy gains are not achievements that indicate God's blessing. On the other hand, in the following verse (1 Timothy 6:6) Paul says that true "godliness [including unselfish and sacrificial living] with contentment is great gain."

In the eyes of the Jews, and in the eyes of the Romans and worldlings of his day, Saul of Tarsus, a great Winner, a great Gainer, became Paul the great Loser after he met Jesus on the Damascus road. But in the eyes of Christ it was paradoxically, but precisely, just the opposite. He who had been a great Loser as a Pharisee, became a great Winner and Gainer when he lost all that he had formerly counted gain and became the humble and zealous follower of the despised Jesus of Nazareth.

And, paradoxical as it really is, the True Winners and True Gainers in this life are those who emulate the great apostle who lived what he wrote in Philippians 3:7-8 -- "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ."

\* \* \* \* \*

## 10 -- THE GENERAL RESURRECTION

This item is Chapter 15 in my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom," hdm0124 -- to which publication I refer the reader who may wish to examine my eschatological beliefs more fully.

### The Time When All Shall Be Resurrected

Concerning the fact that both the righteous and the wicked will be resurrected at Christ's return on the day of the Lord, see Chapter 12, The 144,000 And The Final Harvests, where the resurrection of the wicked is pictured as immediately following that of the righteous, and not 1007 years thereafter. Also, in support of the fact that at Christ's second coming there will then be a general resurrection of all of the dead, consider the following scriptural proof:

Dan. 12:1-2 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, (for a time, times, and an half) such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. (2) And many (or the many) of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Here, the resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked is seen to follow the 3 1/2 year long "time of trouble," or great tribulation. The context suggests that those who are resurrected "to everlasting..contempt" will be raised immediately after the resurrection of those raised "to everlasting life," with little or no intermission between the two: "at that time...them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to everlasting shame and contempt."

### One Resurrection Unto Two Different Fates

John 5:28-29 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, (29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

In the above verses Jesus said that all of the dead will be resurrected at the same hour, not 1007 years apart as would be the case if the pre-trib, pre-millennial rapture teaching was so. Further proof that the resurrection of the wicked will not be separated from that of the righteous by a millennium or more is seen in a statement which Jesus made to the wicked Caiaphas. Jesus' statement to him presents a fact which perhaps many pre-millennialists have overlooked.

### The Wicked Will See Christ Coming In The Clouds

In Matt. 26:69 Jesus said to the wicked Caiaphas: "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

## This Proves A General Resurrection At Christ's Return

Reader, Please note: The pre-millennial teaching places the resurrection of the wicked 1000 years after the post-tribulational revelation of Christ. It would be utterly impossible for Caiaphas to see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven at the close of the great tribulation if he, as a wicked man, was resurrected 1000 years after that event took place!

Matt. 26:69 forces us to conclude one of two things:

(a) Jesus saw that Caiaphas was, or would become, righteous, so as to be resurrected with the righteous at His revelation; or

(b) Jesus was telling Caiaphas that all of the dead would be resurrected at His revelation, the wicked as well as the righteous, and that Caiaphas, among the wicked dead raised in that hour, would thus "see the Son of man...coming in the clouds of heaven."

I submit that it is the latter of these two possibilities which is correct, proving that there will not be 1000 years between the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked, but rather that the wicked will be raised at the same hour in which the righteous are raised, at "the last trump"!

## The 7th Trumpet Shows One Time Of Resurrection For All Of The Dead

Rev. 11:15,18 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. (18) And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth.

The evidence in the above verses points to the fact that "the time of the dead" spoken of is "the time" at which all "of the dead" shall be raised. Nothing within these verses suggests that there will be a millennium or more between "the time" at which the righteous dead are raised and "the time" when the wicked dead are raised. Instead, here again, the wicked and the righteous are shown to be resurrected at the same hour on the day of the Lord, with no 1000-year hiatus between the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked.

## The Time When All Of The Dead Shall Be Resurrected Points To A Pre-Second Advent Fulfillment Of The Millennium

Hopefully, the reader can see that, uniformly, the scriptures show that both the wicked and the righteous dead shall be resurrected at Christ's second coming, and that therefore the "1000 years" and the "little season" of Revelation 20:1-8 must be interpreted as having their fulfillment before the second advent of Christ.

Rev. 11:18 places the time of the dead at time of the time of Christ's second coming. From Rev. 20:12 we can see that this same time of the dead will be after the millennium and the little season. Thus, the writer interprets that when all of the dead are raised at the time of Christ's second coming, the millennium and the little season of great tribulation will be past, having been fulfilled in the Church Age before Christ's return.

Further, the writer hopes that the reader can see that an interpretation of Rev. 20:5-7 which places the resurrection of the wicked dead 1000 years after Christ's second advent is in plain contradiction to the majority of other Bible passages bearing on this subject which show that both the righteous and the wicked shall be resurrected at the same hour on the day of the Lord.

### In Conclusion

When the apostle Paul says in Acts 24:15, "that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust," it is noted that a resurrection, singular, is mentioned and not resurrections, plural. It is seen from this along with the other scriptures that there shall be a single time of resurrection during which all the dead, both the just and the unjust, shall come forth from their graves, and that general resurrection is seen to occur after the great tribulation on the day of the Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE END